Testing of OSA-AK Missile from Chandipur

1250. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Russia has test fired their OSA-AK Missile from Chandipur, Orissa;

(b) whether a large number of Russians alongwith the necessary equipments have arrived in Orissa;

(c) whether Government had agreed to provide all the facilities to Russians for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the reasons for permitting Russians to use Indian soil for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) No, Sir. However, facilities for test firing of OSA-AK missile, acquired by the Indian Air Force from Russia, were provided to the Air Force.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Scrapping of some defence projects

1251. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI C. O. POULOSE:
SHRI R. P. GOENKA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether employees of Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) laboratory in Dehradun had gone on indefinite strike from 29th May in protest against the scrapping of some defence projects and alleged corruption in defence research projects as reported in Indian Express dated the 30th May, 2001;

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted any enquiry about the charges of corruption and the reasons for disbanding key projects concerning national security;

(c) if so, the findings of the enquiry conducted and action taken thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise. However, the points raised in news-item have been enquired into by a Headquarters Fact Finding Committee. Nothing adverse has been noticed by the committee.

Joint production of military hardware by India and Israel

1252. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the visit of Defence Secretary to Israel, Israel has expressed its desire to have joint production of wide variety of military hardware, ranging from missiles to armoured vehicles with India and their sale to third world countries;

(b) if so, whether any decision have been taken to have joint ventures in the matter; and

(c) if so, the items to be manufactured jointly by the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) to (c) During the visit of Defence Secretary to Israel from 15-17 May, 2001, matters relating to defence cooperation between the two countries, including new areas of cooperation, were discussed. No commerical contract or agreement on joint ventures was signed during the visit.